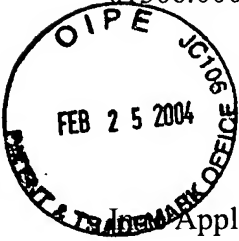


01306.000110

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

Kazushi WATANABE, et al.

Application No.: 10/694,912

Filed: October 29, 2003

For: DEVELOPING APPARATUS HAVING
A SHEET PREVENTING A
DEVELOPING AGENT FROM
LEAKING OUT OF A CONTAINER
OPENING

)
: Examiner: Unassigned
)
: Group Art Unit: 2852
)
: Confirmation No.: 4500
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) February 25, 2004
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Mail Stop Missing Parts

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the patent documents listed on the enclosed citation Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of the non-English patent documents and counterpart abstracts are also enclosed.

STATEMENT/PETITION/FEE

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), since a first Official Action has not been received in the above-identified application, neither a Statement, Petition, nor payment of a fee is required for this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be deemed necessary in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

REMARKS

Japanese Patent Document No. 11-13374 is discussed at least at page 3, paragraph [0006] of the specification.

U.S. Patent No. 6,336,014 is identified as being in the patent family of Japanese Patent Document No. 2001-22179.

U.S. Patent No. 6,185,393 is identified as being in the patent family of Japanese Patent Document No. 11-143225.

U.S. Patent No. 6,044,237 is identified as being in the patent family of Japanese Patent Document No. 11-133740.

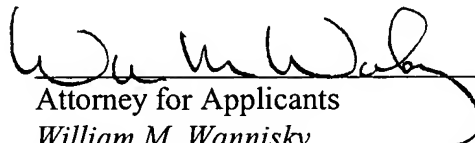
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Favorable consideration hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our New York office at the address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


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WMW/tas

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. 01306.000110		APPLICATION NO. 10/694,912	
Submitted to the PTO: February 26, 2004				FILING DATE October 29, 2003		GROUP 2852	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,177,536	01/05/93	Watanabe, et al.	355	251	
		5,475,467	12/12/95	Watanabe, et al.	355	200	
		5,697,021	12/09/97	Watanabe, et al.	399	102	
		6,021,291	02/01/00	Karakama, et al.	399	104	
		6,044,237	03/28/00	Numagami, et al.	399	104	
		6,185,393 B1	02/06/01	Karakama, et al.	399	103	
		6,336,014 B1	01/01/02	Sato, et al.	399	103	
		6,606,469 B2	08/12/03	Kikuchi, et al.	399	104	02/06/02
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		3-4266	01/10/91	Japan			Abstract
		8-305164	11/22/96	Japan			Abstract
		11-133740	05/21/99	Japan			Abstract
		11-143225	05/28/99	Japan			Abstract
		2001-22179	01/26/01	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.